

Maa Jhanjiri Mangala Mandir, Cuttack, Odisha

Ref: Wikipedia

The **Maa Jhanjiri Mangala Temple**, or **Jhanjiri Mangala Mandir** is an ancient Hindu mandir (temple) dedicated to **Mangala** (Maa Mangala), the presiding deity of the **Cuttack City** in **Odisha, India**. One of numerous temples in Cuttack,^[1] it is located at the area of **Jhanjiri Mangala** and is known also as **Mangala Temple at Jhanjirimangala Square**. During the annual festival of **Durga Puja**, the temple and its surroundings are extensively adorned with different types of lights, bamboo/ply gates, paper triangles, and other decorations.

Mythological origin

According to legend, the land where the temple is located was previously forested. A priest who lived in the forest had a vision of the goddess "Mangala" who appeared in a dream and asked him to make a small temple for her.

The present temple was built by villagers of the Jhanjiri Mangala area. One of the oldest temple in Cuttack city.

Theft

On 27 December 2015, the temple was broken into by thieves who made off with valuables (gold and silver ornaments) worth 4 or 5 **lakh** rupees.^{[2][3]} A number of small ancient temples throughout Cuttack had been targeted by a gang of thieves over the preceding months. In January 2016 those accused of being responsible were arrested.

Ref: AI Overview

The Maa Jhanjiri Mangala Temple in Cuttack, Odisha, is an ancient shrine dedicated to Goddess Mangala, the revered guardian deity of the city. Located in the Rajabagicha / Jhanjirimangala area, it is a popular Shakta worship center that draws large crowds during Navratri and Durga Puja. [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

About the Temple & Deity

- **Deity:** Dedicated to Maa Mangala, viewed as an incarnation of Shakti/Durga.
- **Location:** Rajabagicha area near Trinath Mandir, Cuttack, Odisha (PIN 753009).
- **Architecture:** Traditional Odishan/Kalinga style featuring a sanctum and assembly hall.
- **Festivals:** Celebrates vibrant lights and decorations during Durga Puja and special rituals on Tuesdays. [1, 2, 3, 4, 6]

If you'd like, I can provide: Travel directions from Cuttack Railway Station
Timing details for daily rituals and aarti
Information on **nearby temples** to visit in Cuttack

AI can make mistakes, so double-check responses

[1] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maa_Jhanjiri_Mangala_Temple

[2]

https://www.justdial.com/Cuttack/Jhanjiri-Mangala-Mandir-Near-Trinath-Mandir-Rajabagicha/0671PX671-X671-171202110252-B7L2_BZDET

[3] <https://hindumandiryatra.com/article/maa-jhanjiri-mangala-temple>

[4] <https://www.tourtravelworld.com/india/cuttack/maa-jhanjiri-mangala-temple.htm>

[5] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iAtvRsOhb1s>

[6] <https://www.instagram.com/reel/DOvEVLJDLZ1/?hl=en>

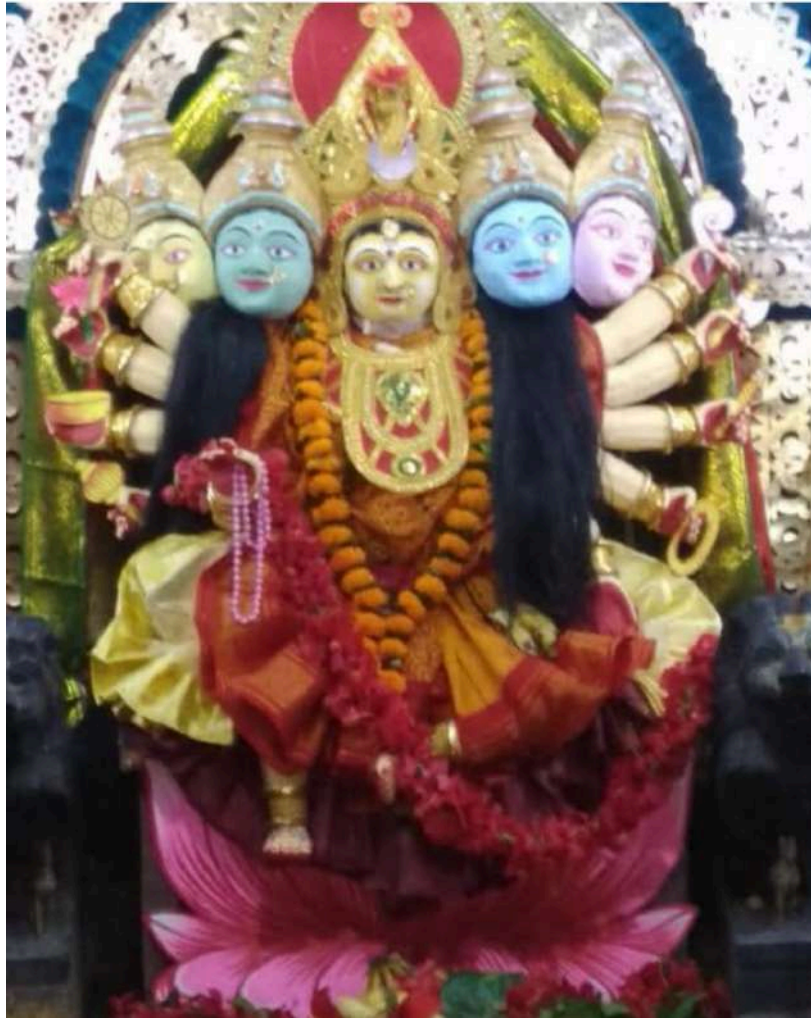
Ref: Maa Jhanjiri Mangala Mandir, Jhanjiri Mangala...FB page

Link: <https://www.facebook.com/share/19KiLnx4bZ/>









Maa Jhanjiri Mangala Mandir, Cuttack, Odisha

An overview of the Maa Jhanjiri Mangala Mandir in Cuttack, Odisha, detailing its history, architecture, and visitor context follows.

Location

The temple is situated at **Jhanjirimangala Square, Rajabagicha**, in the heart of Cuttack, Odisha (Pincode: 753009). It lies roughly 3–4 km from the Cuttack Railway Station and Badambadi Bus Stand.

How to Get There

- **By Air:** The nearest airport is Biju Patnaik International Airport (BBI) in Bhubaneswar, located about 28 km away. Taxis and direct local buses connect the airport to Cuttack.
- **By Train:** Cuttack Junction (CTC) is well-connected by express and passenger trains. Local auto-rickshaws, cycle-rickshaws, and app-based cabs (Uber/Ola) are readily available from the station directly to Jhanjirimangala Square.
- **By Road:** Cuttack is accessible via NH-16. State transport buses and local city buses ("Mo Bus") run frequently from Bhubaneswar, Puri, and neighboring areas to Cuttack's Badambadi / Netaji Bus Terminal.

Speciality of this Temple

- Maa Mangala is revered as one of the primary protective Shakta deities (Adhistatri Devi) of Cuttack city.
- The shrine holds immense cultural importance during the annual Durga Puja and Chaitra Parba celebrations.
- It is locally renowned for fulfilling the prayers of devotees seeking general well-being, protection from misfortunes, and family prosperity.

History and Legends

- **Legend:** Local traditions recount that the area surrounding the present shrine was once dense woodland. A resident priest/devotee had a divine dream vision wherein Goddess Mangala instructed him to unearth or consecrate her deity form in that locality and construct a sanctuary.
- **Evolution:** Local villagers and neighborhood committees gradually expanded the shrine into its modern layout. Over decades, the shrine became deeply intertwined with Cuttack's famous *Sahi* (locality) culture and festive traditions.

Architecture

- Built in the regional **Kalinga (Utkaliya) temple style**, featuring a traditional *Pidha Deula* structure.
- The main structure comprises a *Vimana* (sanctum sanctorum) topped with a *Beki*, *Amalaka*, and *Kalasa*.
- A covered assembly hall (*Jagamohana*) accommodates visiting devotees. The exterior walls are finished with traditional plasterwork, decorative motifs, and lintel relief work.

Main Deity and Sub-Deities

- **Main Deity:** Goddess Mangala—a four-armed manifestation of Shakti/Durga—holding sacred emblems (*Sankha*, *Chakra*, and bestowing *Varada* and *Abhaya* mudras).
- **Sub-Deities:** Lord Ganesha, Lord Shiva (in Linga form), Hanuman, and Parshvadevatas installed in outer niches around the main vimana.

Daily Rituals and Poojas (with Standard Charges)

- **Opening Hours:** Typically 6:00 AM – 12:30 PM and 4:00 PM – 8:30 PM.
- **Daily Rituals:**
 - *Mangala Aarti* (Early morning)
 - *Snana & Alankara* (Bathing and floral adornment)
 - *Sankudi & Pana Bhoga* (Mid-day food offerings)
 - *Sandhya Aarti & Pahuda* (Evening lamp offering and night closure)
- **Pooja Charges:** Basic *Archana* and *Thali Bhoga* tickets generally range from **₹20 to ₹100** depending on the complexity of offerings. Standard *Niti* rites are maintained by local temple priests (*Sebaitis*).

Special Poojas and Charges

- **Special Sevas:** *Sahasranama Archana*, *Chandi Patha*, *Sodashopachara Pooja*, and *Mahadipa / Alankara Seva*.
- **Charges:** Special individual offerings or festival sevas usually range between **₹250 and ₹2,000+**, paid directly at the temple office counter prior to the rituals.

Festivals Celebrated

- **Durga Puja (Saradiya):** The largest annual festival, marked by elaborate pandals, extensive illumination, special daily rituals, and community feast distributions (*Maha Prasad*).
- **Chaitra Navratri & Jhamu Yatra:** Celebrated in March/April with special fasting rites, processions, and *Pana* offerings.
- **Basanti Durga Puja and Kali Puja.**

Facilities Available for Devotees

- **Prasad Distribution:** Counter facilities for purchasing sanctified *Pana* and *Bhoga*.
- **Shoe Counters & Basic Amenities:** Drinking water and footwear storage arrangements available near the temple gate.
- **Accommodation:** The temple itself does not operate a dedicated lodging complex; however, numerous private hotels, guest houses, and lodges are located within a 1–2 km radius.

Do's and Don'ts

- **Do's:**
 - Wear modest, culturally respectful attire.
 - Remove footwear at the designated holding counter before entering the inner courtyard.
 - Maintain quiet decorum during *Aarti* hours.
- **Don'ts:**
 - Photography or videography inside the sanctum sanctorum is strictly restricted.
 - Avoid touching the main idol or entering restricted ritual spaces reserved for officiating *Sebais*.

Nearby Temples

- **Maa Kataka Chandi Temple, Kataka:** ~2.5 km away; the principal Shakti shrine of Cuttack.
- **Gadbadraswar Shiva Temple:** Located near the historic Barabati area.
- **Raghunath Jew Temple (Tulsipur):** ~3.5 km away.
- **Dhableswar Water Temple:** ~30 km from the main city (located on an island in the Mahanadi River).

Nearby Hotels

- **Hotel Akbari Continental** (Dolamundai, ~2 km)
- **Pramod Convention Club & Resort** (CDA / Bidanasi area, ~5 km)
- **Hotel Grand Residency** (Badambadi area, ~2.5 km)
- **Budget Lodges & Guest Houses:** Multiple options located around Badambadi Bus Stand and College Square.

Nearby Tourist Spots

- **Barabati Fort:** Ancient 14th-century fort ruins and moat site (~3 km).
- **Odisha Maritime Museum (Jobra Workshop):** ~4 km away; showcases the region's maritime history along the Mahanadi.
- **Netaji Birth Place Museum (Janki Nath Bhawan):** Ancestral home of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose (~2 km).
- **Mahanadi Barrage & Naraj View Point:** Scenic waterfront sites.

Donation Info & Contact Details

- **Donations:** Cash and digital donations for temple maintenance, daily anna-dan, or festival preparations are accepted at the official management committee counter (*Trust Board / Mandir Parichalana Samiti*). Official receipts are provided for all contributions.
- **Contact Phone:** Queries and ritual bookings can be made directly in person at the administrative desk at Jhanjirimangala Square, Cuttack.

Ref: GrokAI

****Maa Jhanjiri Mangala Temple (also known as Jhanjiri Mangala Mandir or Mangala Temple at Jhanjirimangala Square), Cuttack, Odisha****

This is a local ancient Hindu temple in Cuttack dedicated to Goddess Mangala (Maa Mangala), regarded as a form of Durga/Parvati and one of the presiding deities associated with the city. Note that the far more prominent and famous ****Maa Mangala Temple**** is in Kakatpur (Puri district, ~69 km from Cuttack), a major Shakti Peeth linked to Jagannath traditions and Nabakalebara rituals. The query specifies Cuttack, so the focus here is the Jhanjiri temple; details on the Kakatpur one are widely available separately if needed.

Location

Rajabagicha / Jhanjiri Mangala area (Jhanjirimangala Square), Cuttack, Odisha 753009. Coordinates approximately 20°27'35"N 85°52'36"E. It is in a central urban locality near Kathajodi Road.

How to Get There

- ****By Air**:** Nearest airport is Biju Patnaik International Airport, Bhubaneswar (~30–31 km). Taxis, app cabs, or buses to Cuttack (45–60 minutes).
- ****By Rail**:** Cuttack Junction Railway Station is very close (~0.5–3 km). Autos, cycle-rickshaws, or taxis available.
- ****By Road**:** Well-connected via NH-16. Badambadi Bus Stand is nearby (~2 km / short walk or auto). Local transport (autos, taxis) easily reaches the temple from city points.

Speciality of This Temple

It is considered one of the oldest temples in Cuttack city and is dedicated to Mangala as a local presiding/protective deity. The self-manifested (or stone) idol is kept securely in the garbhagriha and accessed mainly by priests; it is taken out on special occasions like

Navaratri. The temple is elaborately decorated during Durga Puja, and Sodasa Besha (16 different attires/forms of the Goddess) is performed.

History and Legends

According to local legend, the site was once forested. A priest living there repeatedly saw a richly ornamented lady. When he asked her to reveal her face, she turned into a stone. That night, Goddess Mangala appeared in his dream and requested a small temple. Villagers of the Jhanjiri Mangala area built the present temple. One account links the name “Jhanjiri” to the Goddess saving a person from intense sun heat (related to “jhanji” in Odia). It is described as dating back centuries (one source suggests around the 10th century or Eastern Ganga period influences), built by local efforts. In December 2015, thieves stole gold and silver ornaments worth several lakhs; arrests followed.

Architecture

Odisha (Kalinga) style with shikharas and domes. It is a relatively modest urban temple rather than a large monumental complex.

Main Deity and Subdeities

Main deity: Goddess Maa Mangala (incarnation of Parvati/Durga). The primary idol is self-manifested/stone and kept secure. Associated smaller shrines or forms may be present as typical in Shakti temples; specific subdeities are not extensively detailed in available sources.

Daily Rituals and Poojas and Their Charges

Typical daily worship includes aartis, offerings of flowers, incense, lamps, and prasad distribution. Timings reported around 9:00 AM–8:00/8:30 PM (confirm locally as they can vary). Specific standardized daily pooja charges are not widely published; offerings and basic sevas are generally modest and arranged with priests on-site. Prasad is available.

Special Poojas and Their Charges

Special emphasis during Navaratri/Durga Puja with Sodasa Besha (16 attires) and elaborate decorations. Specific charges for special sevas are not publicly detailed in standard sources—inquire at the temple for current rates on abhisheka, special aartis, or other offerings.

Festivals Celebrated

Primarily Durga Puja (autumn/Dushera season) with extensive lighting, decorations (lights, bamboo/ply gates, paper ornaments), and Sodasa Besha rituals. Navaratri observances are important.

Facilities Available for Devotees (such as Accommodation)

As a city temple, basic facilities (prasad, darshan) are available. Dedicated temple guest houses or extensive on-site accommodation are not prominently mentioned. Devotees typically stay in hotels/guesthouses in Cuttack city.

Do's and Don'ts

Standard temple etiquette applies: Dress modestly, remove footwear, maintain silence and cleanliness, avoid non-vegetarian food/alcohol in the premises if restricted, follow priest instructions especially regarding the sanctum (limited access to the main idol). Photography rules and other norms should be checked on-site. During festivals, expect crowds and follow local crowd management.

Nearby Temples

- Cuttack Chandi Temple (Kataka Chandi – major city deity temple, relatively close).
- Other local temples: Raghunath Jew Mandir, Baladev Jew Temple, Ganga Mandir, Durga mandirs in the broader Cuttack area, Dhabaleswar Temple (on Mahanadi island, a bit farther).

Nearby Hotels

Numerous options in Cuttack city (budget to mid-range near railway station, Badambadi, or central areas). Examples from general listings include various Hotel O properties, guest houses, and resorts like Pramod Convention & Club Resort (check current availability and distance via booking sites). Cuttack has good connectivity for stays.

Nearby Tourist Spots

- Barabati Fort and Stadium.
- Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Birth Place Museum.
- Mahanadi and Kathajodi riverfronts/bridges.
- Dhabaleswar Temple.
- Within easy reach: Bhubaneswar temples (Lingaraj, etc., ~30 km), and farther afield Konark, Puri. Ansupa Lake and other scenic spots in the district.

Donation Info with Contact Phone Number

Specific official donation contacts or phone numbers for the temple trust are not prominently listed in public sources. Donations can typically be made at the temple counter. For the more famous Kakatpur Maa Mangala, official channels exist (website maamangala.org referenced in some sources), but for Jhanjiri inquire locally. Check recent local directories or visit for current details.

Any Other Info

- Best season: Winter (mild weather); festivals draw larger crowds.
- The temple is community-oriented and one of several Mangala-related shrines in the region.
- Always verify current timings, rituals, and any restrictions on-site or via local inquiries, as details can change.
- For the major Maa Mangala Temple at Kakatpur (Prachi river bank): It features Kalinga architecture, strong links to Jagannath Nabakalebara (Banayaga Yatra), Jhamu Yatra (fire-walking), Durga Pujas, a stone bed associated with the Goddess, and more elaborate documented rituals/history dating to the 15th–16th century.

Information is compiled from available public sources (Wikipedia, local listings, travel sites). For the most accurate and up-to-date details on rituals, charges, or contacts, visit the temple or consult local priests/authorities, as smaller temples often have limited online documentation.

Ref: ClaudeAI

Also known as Ma Mangala Devi Temple / Mangala Temple, Jhanjirimangala Square — one of the oldest temples in Cuttack)

Location

The temple is located at Jhanjiri Mangala, Cuttack, Odisha, and is also known as Mangala Temple at Jhanjirimangala Square. (Wikipedia) The street address is Rajabagicha, Cuttack, Odisha 753009, near Trinath Mandir, about 0.46 km from Cuttack Junction railway station. (Google Translate)

How to get there

Nearest railway station: Cuttack Junction (~0.5 km, walkable)

Nearest airport: Bhubaneswar (Biju Patnaik International Airport), about 25–30 km away

Well connected by city buses/autos/e-rickshaws from Cuttack bus stand and railway station

Speciality of this temple

The temple is dedicated to Goddess Mangala, believed to be the presiding deity of Cuttack city, and is one of numerous ancient temples in Cuttack. (Wikipedia) It's counted among the oldest temples in the city. (Velpu)

History and legends

Accounts of its founding vary between sources: one version dates the temple to the 10th century AD, while others simply call it "ancient." According to legend, the land where the temple now stands was once forest. A priest living there repeatedly saw a richly bejewelled woman wandering about; one day he asked her to turn and show her face, and she instantly turned to stone. That night, the Goddess Mangala appeared in his dream and asked him to build a small temple for her. (Velpu) The name "Jhanjiri" is said to come from an incident where the Goddess saved a person from dying of sunstroke ("jhanji" in Odia) on a scorching day. (Velpu) The present structure was built by villagers of the Jhanjiri Mangala area. (Wikipedia)

Architecture

A modest, traditional Odishan temple structure (not a large Kalinga-style shikhara complex like Lingaraj or Konark). The self-manifested (swayambhu) idol of the Goddess is kept securely in the garbhagriha (sanctum) and is accessed only by priests (Velpu) — a replica idol adorned with gold jewellery is displayed on the main altar for public darshan.

Main deity and sub-deities

The main deity is Goddess Maa Mangala, worshipped as a form/incarnation of Goddess Parvati. (Velpu) Other sources describe her as a manifestation of Durga/Shakti. Specific sub-deities/shrines within the complex aren't well documented in public sources — best confirmed on-site.

Daily rituals, poojas, and special poojas & charges

The temple is open all seven days, roughly 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM. (Google Translate) Daily rituals typically include morning mangala aarti, bhog offering, and evening aarti (as is customary for Devi temples in Odisha), and the idol is taken out in a special procession twice a year during Navaratri. (Wikipedia) I could not find a reliable, published fee schedule for daily/special poojas — these vary and are best confirmed directly with the temple's priests/committee, as many local temples don't publish formal rate cards.

Festivals celebrated

- Durga Puja / Navaratri — the temple and surroundings are elaborately decorated with lights, bamboo/ply gates, and paper triangles. (Wikipedia)
- Dussehra, with the Sodasa Besha (16-adornment) ritual performed here
- Regular Thursday worship (common for Shakti temples in Odisha)

Facilities for devotees

No dedicated dharamshala/guesthouse is documented for this specific temple, but being centrally located in Cuttack near the railway station, there's no shortage of nearby hotels and lodges (see below) plus shops for puja items right around the temple.

Do's and Don'ts

- Dress modestly: men — shirt and trousers, or dhoti/pyjama with upper cloth; women — saree with blouse, or salwar-kameez; shorts, mini-skirts, sleeveless tops, and low-waist jeans are discouraged. (Velpu)
- Remove footwear before entering
- Photography of the sanctum/idol is usually restricted — check with temple staff
- Maintain queue discipline, especially on Thursdays and during Durga Puja when crowds are heavy

Nearby temples

- Cuttack Chandi Temple (Kataka Chandi) — dedicated to Goddess Chandi, the presiding deity of Cuttack, near the Mahanadi River (Wikipedia) — about a 39-minute walk
- Trinath Mandir (right next to Jhanjiri Mangala temple)
- Several other small ancient neighborhood temples across old Cuttack

Nearby tourist spots

- Barabati Fort and Stadium
- Mahanadi Barrage/riverfront
- Ravenshaw University
- Qadam-i-Rasool
- Odisha State Maritime Museum

Nearby hotels

Cuttack's railway station area (Buxi Bazar, Link Road, Bank Road) has numerous budget-to-mid-range hotels within 1–2 km — e.g., commonly listed options include hotels along Link Road and near the bus stand. I'd recommend checking live availability/ratings on a booking site since specific names and prices change often.

Donation info & contact

Contact details are listed under "Jhanjiri Mangala Mandir, Rajabagicha, Cuttack – 753009 (near Trinath Mandir)" on local directories like Justdial, which show a phone number and WhatsApp contact option. (Justdial) I don't have a verified, publishable phone number in my results — I'd suggest looking it up directly on Justdial/Google Maps listing for "Jhanjiri Mangala Mandir, Rajabagicha, Cuttack," or asking the temple committee on-site, since these numbers change and I can't confirm accuracy from here.

Other info

- A 2015 theft incident occurred at the temple where thieves broke in and made off with gold and silver ornaments worth 4–5 lakh rupees; the accused were arrested in January 2016. (Wikipedia)
- **Best time to visit:** winter season, September to February, is considered most comfortable, since summers (April–June) can reach around 45°C. (Velpu)

A quick note: some details (exact founding date, pooja charges, official phone number) vary or aren't consistently documented across sources — worth confirming directly with the temple or Odisha's Hindu Religious Endowment authorities if you need precise figures.

Ref: perplexityAI

Maa Jhanjiri Mangala Temple, Cuttack

Maa Jhanjiri Mangala Temple is an important local Shakti shrine in Cuttack, Odisha, dedicated to Maa Mangala, who is worshipped as a protective form of Goddess Parvati or Shakti. It is also known as **Jhanjiri Mangala Mandir** or **Mangala Temple at Jhanjirimangala Square**. [1]

> **Note:** Publicly available information about this temple's exact history, official tariff, and administrative contact is limited. Therefore, the pooja charges and timings below should be treated as indicative and verified at the temple before planning a special ritual.

Location

The temple is situated in the **Jhanjiri Mangala/Rajabagicha area of Cuttack**, near Trinath Mandir, Cuttack, Odisha 753009. Some directories identify the location as Jhanjiri Mangala Square, while others give the nearby Rajabagicha address. [1][2]

The temple is located within Cuttack city and is easily accessible from:

- Cuttack Junction Railway Station.
- Badambadi Bus Stand.
- Cuttack city centre.
- Rajabagicha and Jhanjiri Mangala Square.

Cuttack Junction Railway Station is the nearest major railway station. [3][4]

How to Get There

By air

The nearest airport is **Biju Patnaik International Airport, Bhubaneswar**, approximately 30 km from Cuttack, depending on the route. Taxis and app-based cabs are available from the airport to Cuttack. [5]

By railway

From **Cuttack Junction Railway Station**, the temple can be reached by auto-rickshaw, taxi or city transport. The station is within the city and is the most convenient railway arrival point. [3][4]

By bus

Devotees arriving at **Badambadi Bus Stand** can hire an auto-rickshaw or taxi to Jhanjiri Mangala. The distance is reported to be about 2 km, although the exact distance depends on the point of entry and route. [5]

By road

Cuttack is well connected by road with Bhubaneswar, Puri, Jagatsinghpur, Paradeep and other towns of Odisha.

Local landmarks useful for navigation are:

- Jhanjiri Mangala Square.
- Rajabagicha.
- Trinath Mandir.
- Cuttack Junction.
- Badambadi Bus Stand.

Speciality of the Temple

Maa Jhanjiri Mangala is regarded by local devotees as the **guardian deity of Cuttack city**. Devotees pray to her for protection, good health, prosperity, family welfare and fulfilment of vows. [1][5]

The temple is especially important for:

- Daily worship of Maa Mangala.
- Shakta and Durga-related observances.
- Special forms or **beshes** of the Goddess during Navaratri and Durga Puja.
- Local devotional traditions of Cuttack.
- Community worship and family offerings.

During Navaratri, the Goddess may be displayed in several forms, including Rajarajeshwari, Shodashi, Bhuvaneshwari, Kamala, Vaishnavi, Gayatri, Dakshina Kali, Saraswati and Chamunda, according to local observance. [6]

History and Legends

The temple is described in local sources as an ****ancient Hindu shrine**** dedicated to Maa Mangala. However, a detailed, officially documented foundation history or confirmed date of construction is not readily available in public sources. [1][7]

Local devotional belief identifies Maa Jhanjiri Mangala with a protective form of Goddess Parvati or Shakti. The Goddess is believed to safeguard the city and bless devotees with prosperity and good health. [5][7]

The title “Jhanjiri Mangala” refers to the area in which the temple is situated. The temple’s importance has grown through continuous local worship, annual festivals, vows and community participation rather than through a single widely documented historical event.

Architecture

The temple is a functioning urban shrine rather than a large monument comparable to the Barabati Fort area temples or the major temples of Bhubaneswar. Public descriptions do not provide a detailed architectural survey or a reliable record of the temple’s original construction.

The main architectural and devotional features include:

- A principal sanctum for Maa Mangala.
- A main altar with the worshipped image of the Goddess.
- A frontal area for darshan and offerings.
- Space for ritual worship and festival decoration.
- Associated worship areas for other deities.

One source states that the main altar contains a ****replica of the original idol****, while the principal sacred ornaments include real gold jewellery used for ceremony.

Main deity and Sub- deities

Main deity

The principal deity is Maa Jhanjiri Mangala, worshipped as an incarnation or form of Goddess Parvati and Shakti. She is considered the presiding and protective deity of the locality and, in popular belief, a guardian of Cuttack.

Subdeities

Public listings mention worship of:

- Lord Hanuman.
- Surya Deva, the solar deity.

Other subsidiary images may be present within the temple complex or nearby shrine area. Since the complete list is not consistently published, devotees should ask the temple priest or office for the current official list.

Temple Timings

Published listings give slightly different timings:

- One listing reports ****9:00 AM to 8:30 PM**** daily. [5]
- Another reports ****9:00 AM to 8:00 PM**** daily. [4]
- A local directory states that the temple opens at approximately 9:00 AM. [2]

A practical indicative schedule is therefore:

Darshan period	Approximate timing
Opening	9:00 AM
Daytime darshan	9:00 AM–1:00 PM
Evening darshan	About 4:00 PM–8:00/8:30 PM
Weekly closure	Generally reported as none

These timings may change during Navaratri, Durga Puja, special besha days and other important observances. It is advisable to confirm the timing locally before travelling.

Daily Rituals and Poojas

The detailed official daily ritual schedule is not publicly available.

Daily worship generally includes customary Shakta temple practices such as:

- Morning cleansing and preparation of the shrine.
- Alankara or decoration of the Goddess.
- Archana and mantra worship.
- Offering of flowers, lamps, incense and bhoga.
- Midday worship.
- Evening arati.
- Special devotional offerings made by families.

The temple is also reported to conduct ****Shodashopachara Puja****, meaning worship performed through sixteen traditional ritual services, especially during important special-besha occasions. [8]

Daily Pooja Charges

No verified official online rate card for ordinary daily poojas was located.

In general:

- Ordinary darshan is normally free.
- Flowers, garlands, coconuts and bhoga are purchased separately.
- Archana, sankalpa and special offerings may involve a nominal charge.
- Charges can vary according to the offering and festival period.

Local Cuttack temple listings indicate that special rituals in many temples may range from approximately ₹10 to ₹100 or more, but this is a general directory estimate and ****not an official Jhanjiri Mangala tariff****. [9]

Devotees should ask for the current rate and receipt at the authorised counter.

Special Poojas and Their Charges

Special worship may be arranged for:

- Sankalpa.
- Archana.
- Family welfare.
- Birthday or marriage anniversaries.
- New house or business prayers.
- Navaratri worship.
- Special alankara.
- Shodashopachara Puja.
- Chamunda or other special besha observances.
- Bhoga and devotional offerings.

The charges for these services are not reliably published online. They may depend on:

- Type of pooja.

- Quantity of offerings.
- Decoration or alankara requested.
- Number of devotees included in the sankalpa.
- Festival or ordinary-day rates.

For a formal devotional programme, contact the temple in person and request a written list of charges before making payment.

Festivals Celebrated

Navaratri and Durga Puja

Navaratri and Durga Puja are among the most important annual observances. During this period, Maa Mangala is worshipped in different manifestations and receives elaborate decoration and special offerings. [6][10]

Chamunda Besha

The ****Chamunda Besha**** is a significant special form of the Goddess. Large numbers of devotees visit the temple when Maa Mangala is adorned as Chamunda. [8][11]

Shodashopachara Puja

During special religious occasions, the temple conducts the traditional sixteen-step worship known as Shodashopachara Puja. [8]

Other observances

Depending on the local calendar, the temple may also observe:

- Chaitra Navaratri.
- Ashwin Navaratri.
- Kumar Purnima-related worship.
- Kali Puja.
- Lakshmi Puja.
- Special Tuesdays and Fridays.
- Annual local temple celebrations.
- Special vows and community bhajans.

Festival dates follow the Odia and Hindu lunar calendar and should be confirmed locally.

Facilities for Devotees

As the temple is located inside Cuttack city, devotees can access ordinary urban facilities nearby:

- Auto-rickshaws and taxis.
- Shops selling flowers and puja articles.
- Tea shops and local eateries.
- Medical shops and general stores.
- Banks and ATMs in the wider city area.
- Railway and bus transport.
- Hotels and guest houses in Cuttack.

The temple itself may have limited facilities compared with large pilgrimage complexes. Public information does not confirm dedicated cloakrooms, formal accommodation, online darshan booking or a large temple dining hall.

Accommodation

There is no clearly verified information about a dedicated temple guest house or dharamshala managed by Maa Jhanjiri Mangala Temple.

Devotees may stay in:

- Budget hotels around Cuttack Railway Station.
- Hotels near Badambadi.
- Lodges around Rajabagicha and central Cuttack.
- Hotels in CDA, Link Road and surrounding areas.
- Religious guest houses or service organisations, subject to availability.

A local Brahma Kumaris centre called **Cuttack Jhanjiri Mangala Sukh Shanti Bhawan publishes the following contact details: **0671-2621638, 0671-2624982 and 9437026249**. This appears to be a meditation/service centre and should not be assumed to be temple accommodation without prior confirmation. [12]**

Do's and Don'ts

Do's

- Dress modestly and respectfully.

- Follow the queue during busy festival days.
- Offer flowers, fruits and coconuts only through permitted procedures.
- Ask the priest before performing any personal ritual.
- Keep the temple and surrounding roads clean.
- Obtain receipts for paid services and donations.
- Visit in the morning or early evening for a less crowded darshan.
- Respect local customs and the instructions of temple volunteers.

Don'ts

- Do not touch the idol, altar or ritual objects without permission.
- Do not photograph or record restricted rituals.
- Do not enter prohibited areas.
- Do not push or crowd other devotees.
- Do not give money to unauthorised intermediaries.
- Do not leave plastic, food waste or flowers outside designated places.
- Do not assume that every person wearing religious clothing is an authorised priest.
- Do not make online payments to unverified personal numbers.

Nearby Temples

The following temples and religious places can be included in a Cuttack visit:

- ****Cuttack Chandi Temple****, one of Cuttack's most important Shakti shrines.
- ****Gorakabarh Siva Temple****.
- ****Dhabaleswar Temple****, situated on an island in the Mahanadi River.
- ****Paramahansa Nath Temple****, Biribati.
- ****Singhanath Temple****, Badamba, for a longer excursion.
- ****Barabati Fort temple area****.
- ****Trinath Mandir****, near the temple in Rajabagicha.
- Local Shiva, Hanuman and Devi shrines in the old Cuttack city area.

The exact route and travel time depend on traffic and the chosen temple.

Nearby Hotels

Useful areas for accommodation include:

- Cuttack Railway Station area.
- Badambadi.
- Link Road.
- Rajabagicha.
- College Square.
- CDA Sector areas.

Travel listings show nearby options such as ****Cozy Cove 3BHK****, ****Hotel O Maheshwari Heights****, and ****Super Hotel O Elegant Stay CDA****; availability and prices change frequently, so they should be checked before booking. [13]

For devotees seeking convenient transport, staying near Cuttack Junction or Badambadi may be more practical than staying immediately beside the temple.

Nearby Tourist Spots

Important Cuttack attractions include:

- ****Barabati Fort****.
- ****Barabati Stadium****.
- ****Cuttack Chandi Temple****.
- ****Netaji Birth Place Museum****.
- ****Odisha State Maritime Museum****.
- ****Mahanadi River embankment****.
- ****Dhabaleswar Temple****.
- ****Bali Jatra grounds****, especially during the annual Bali Jatra.
- ****Qadam-i-Rasool****.
- Traditional silver filigree shopping areas.

A good one-day programme could include Maa Jhanjiri Mangala Temple, Cuttack Chandi Temple, Netaji Birth Place Museum, Barabati Fort and the Odisha State Maritime Museum.

Donation Information

No clearly verified official donation portal or temple donation telephone number was found in the available public listings.

For safe donations:

- Donate at the temple's authorised counter.
- Ask for an official receipt.
- Confirm whether the donation is for daily worship, annadana, festival expenses, renovation or general maintenance.
- Avoid sending money to personal bank accounts or UPI IDs circulated through informal messages.
- For substantial donations, request the temple management committee's official bank details in writing.

The following numbers are publicly listed for the nearby Jhanjiri Mangala Sukh Shanti Bhawan, but they are ****not verified as Maa Jhanjiri Mangala Temple donation numbers****:

- 0671-2621638.
- 0671-2624982.
- 9437026249. [12]

Contact and Verification

The publicly available sources do not provide a clearly verified official temple office number. For accurate information regarding:

- Current timings.
- Festival dates.
- Special-besha darshan.
- Pooja charges.
- Priest booking.
- Donation details.
- Lost-and-found matters.

- Accommodation.

The safest method is to visit the temple office or ask the authorised priestly service at the temple.

Directory listings identify the temple at ****Rajabagicha, near Trinath Mandir, Cuttack–753009****, and report daily opening broadly between 9:00 AM and 8:00/8:30 PM. [2][4]

Best Time to Visit

- ****Ordinary darshan:**** Morning hours or early evening.
- ****Peaceful visit:**** Weekdays outside festival periods.
- ****Special devotional experience:**** Navaratri, Durga Puja and Chamunda Besha days.
- ****Less crowded period:**** September to February is generally more comfortable for visiting Cuttack, according to visitor information. [5]

During major festivals, devotees should expect traffic restrictions, long queues and limited parking near the temple.

Daily Pooja Timings

For Maa Jhanjiri Mangala Temple, Rajabagicha, Cuttack, a complete official daily pooja timetable is not publicly available. The temple is generally reported to remain open daily from approximately 9:00 AM to 8:00–8:30 PM.

The available information suggests the following practical schedule:

Activity	Approximate timing
Morning darshan and daily worship	From 9:00 AM
Midday worship/offerings	Around late morning to early afternoon
Evening darshan and arati	Approximately 5:00 PM–8:00/8:30 PM
Temple closing	About 8:00–8:30 PM

The exact timings of Mangala Arati, bhoga, alankara, evening arati and night rituals are not reliably published online. Timings may also change during Navaratri, Durga Puja, Chamunda Besha and other special occasions.

For the precise schedule on the day of your visit, please confirm directly at the temple, especially if you wish to attend a particular pooja. Do not confuse this shrine's schedule with the timetable of Maa Mangala Temple at Kakatpur or other Mangala Devi temples.

History and Legends

Maa Jhanjiri Mangala Temple is an old local Shakti shrine in the Jhanjiri Mangala area of Cuttack. Maa Mangala is worshipped here as a form of Goddess Parvati or Shakti and is regarded by devotees as the protective deity of Cuttack.

A precise, archaeologically verified date for the present temple is not clearly available. Some local accounts describe the shrine as very ancient, while one devotional source attributes the temple's construction to the 10th century CE; this date should be treated as a traditional claim rather than a firmly established historical fact.

Forest and Dream Legend

According to local tradition, the land where the temple now stands was once covered by forest. A priest is said to have lived there and worshipped in that secluded environment.

The priest repeatedly noticed a mysterious woman, richly decorated with ornaments, moving through the forest. He could not identify her, although he felt that she possessed an extraordinary divine presence.

One day, when the priest asked the woman to turn around and show her face, she is believed to have suddenly transformed into a stone image. That night, Maa Mangala appeared to the priest in a dream and instructed him to build a small shrine at the spot and worship her.

The priest and the local villagers then established a small temple and began regular worship of the Goddess. According to this tradition, the present shrine developed from that original modest place of worship.

Legend of the Name

One popular legend connects the name Jhanjiri Mangala with an incident involving a devotee suffering from intense heat on a sunny day. In Odia usage, "jhanji" is associated in local explanations with severe heat or burning sunlight.

According to the story, Maa Mangala protected or rescued the devotee from the effects of the scorching sun. Because of this act of compassion, devotees began to associate the Goddess with the name Jhanjiri Mangala.

Another local account says that the Goddess cured a man suffering from leprosy after he prayed to her during a hot summer afternoon. This story reflects the temple's continuing reputation as a place where devotees seek healing, protection and relief from suffering.

Guardian Deity of Cuttack

Maa Jhanjiri Mangala is traditionally regarded as one of Cuttack's important protective deities. Local devotees believe that she guards the city and blesses residents with health, prosperity and family welfare.

The shrine's importance is therefore not based only on its building or age. Its religious significance has been sustained through continuous worship by the local community, family vows, annual festivals and special forms of the Goddess during Navaratri. ❖

Navaratri Traditions

During Navaratri, Maa Mangala is worshipped in several forms of the Divine Mother. **Local devotional accounts mention forms such as:**

Rajarajeshwari.

Shodashi.

Bhuvaneshwari.

Kamala.

Vaishnavi.

Gayatri.

Dakshina Kali.

Saraswati.

Chamunda.

The Chamunda Besha is particularly important and attracts many devotees. On such occasions, the temple may conduct elaborate decoration and Shodashopachara, or sixteen-fold, worship.

Original Idol and Present Image

A local temple description states that the principal altar contains a replica of the original idol and that the Goddess is ceremonially adorned with real gold jewellery. This detail belongs to the temple's current devotional tradition and should not be confused with a formally documented archaeological history of the original image.

Historical Caution

The forest, dream, stone-image, healing and guardian-deity accounts are sacred local traditions preserved through oral devotion. They are valuable for understanding the faith and cultural memory of Cuttack, but publicly available sources do not provide sufficient archaeological or inscriptional evidence to verify every detail as literal history.

For an authoritative historical account, the temple committee, local priests, Cuttack district cultural authorities or published Odisha temple-history records would need to be consulted directly.

Architectural Features of the Rajabagicha Shrine

Maa Jhanjiri Mangala Temple at Rajabagicha is a comparatively small urban shrine in Cuttack, built in the broad Odisha or Kalinga temple tradition. Public sources describe it as having shikharas and domed elements, but a detailed archaeological survey or officially published architectural plan is not readily available.

Main Shrine

The central architectural focus is the garbhagriha, or sanctum, where Maa Jhanjiri Mangala is worshipped. The image is richly decorated with flowers, cloth and ornaments, and a local description states that the main altar houses a replica of the original idol.

The sanctum is crowned by a temple tower or shikhara, giving the shrine its characteristic vertical form. The available descriptions refer to the building as having “shikharas and domes,” although the exact technical classification of these upper structures is not documented in detail.

Odisha Style

The temple reflects features generally associated with Odisha temple architecture:

- A sanctum containing the principal deity.
- A vertically rising tower over the sanctum.
- A frontal worship or darshan area.
- Decorative treatment around the entrance and shrine.
- Smaller associated shrines within or near the temple complex.

The temple is not comparable in scale to the major monumental Kalinga temples such as Lingaraja or Mukteshwar; its importance lies primarily in its living devotional tradition and connection with Cuttack’s local religious culture.

Decorative Elements

Some visitor descriptions mention:

- Intricate carvings.
- Colourful paintings.
- Sculptural representations of Hindu deities.
- Decorative floral and ceremonial arrangements.
- A richly ornamented image of Maa Mangala.

During Durga Puja, the temple and its surroundings are extensively decorated with lights, flowers, bamboo or plywood gates, paper triangular ornaments and other temporary festival structures. These decorations significantly alter the visual appearance of the shrine during the annual celebration.

Subsidiary Shrines

The temple complex includes smaller shrines or worship spaces dedicated to other deities. Public listings specifically mention Lord Hanuman and Surya Deva as deities worshipped at the shrine.

The exact arrangement, number and architectural form of these subsidiary shrines are not consistently recorded in available sources. They appear to function as supporting devotional spaces around the principal shrine rather than as large independent temples.

Materials and Construction

One recent descriptive account identifies the temple's materials as stone and brick, consistent with many traditional and renovated Odisha shrines. However, the source does not provide a structural study distinguishing the original fabric from later repairs or additions.

Because the temple has undergone changes over time, some visible features may represent later renovation rather than the original construction. A reliable assessment of its age, original plan, stonework and construction phases would require an on-site architectural survey.

Ritual Layout

The shrine's layout is designed primarily for active worship rather than monumentality. The usual devotional movement is:

- Approach from the public street.
- Entry into the temple precinct.
- Darshan before the main altar.
- Offering of flowers, lamps, fruits or bhoga.
- Circumambulation or prayer around the permitted area.
- Visit to subsidiary deity shrines.

The presence and accessibility of a formal enclosed pradakshina patha, separate jagamohana or large mandapa should not be assumed without direct on-site verification.

Festival Architecture

The most distinctive visual feature of the Rajabagicha shrine during festivals is its temporary decorative architecture. Bamboo gates, illuminated frames, paper designs, flowers and colourful backdrops are erected around the temple during Durga Puja and Navaratri.

The Goddess is also presented in different beshes, including Chamunda and other forms of Shakti. These ritual decorations, ornaments and backdrops are an important part of the temple's visual and architectural experience, even though they are temporary rather than permanent structural features.

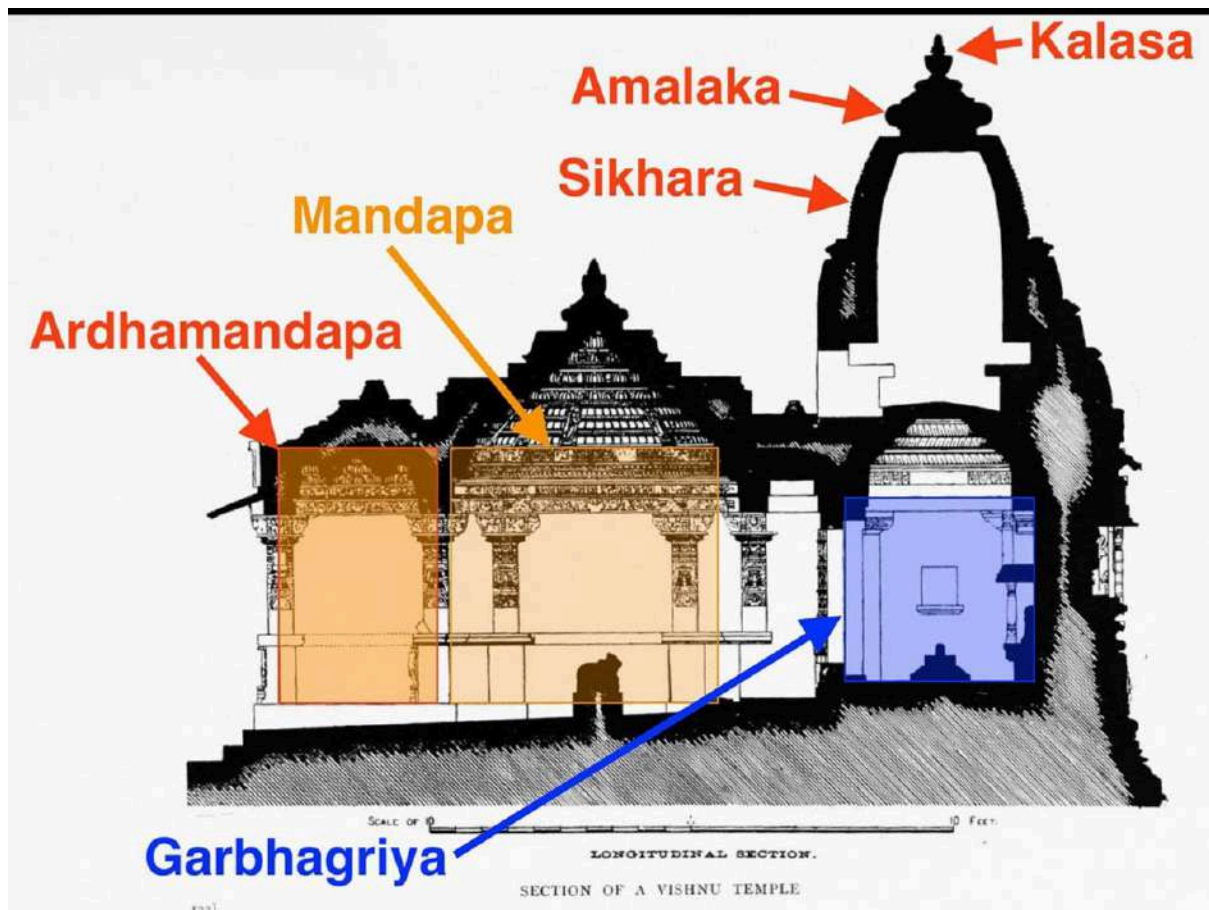
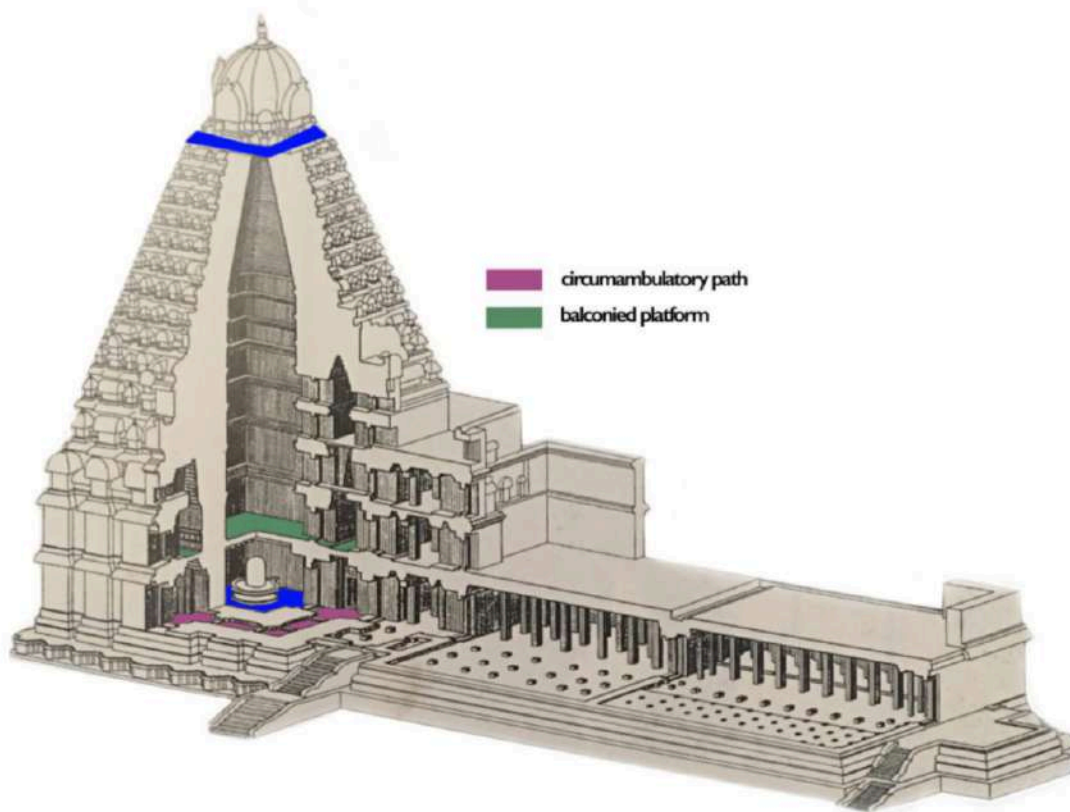
Scholarly Caution

The available online descriptions are mainly devotional, travel and directory accounts. They do not provide verified measurements, a dated inscription, an official architectural classification, a measured plan or a conservation report.

Therefore, the safest description is that Rajabagicha's Maa Jhanjiri Mangala shrine is a living urban Odisha-style Shakti temple with a sanctum, shikhara/domed upper elements, decorative deity imagery and subsidiary shrines, modified and enriched by later renovations and festival decorations.

Photos







Videos

Maa Jhanjiri Mangala...temple documentary (12.39 min):

<https://youtu.be/GjZLltp-jgo?si=n3T4aGaXXZm4KT8e>

Skanda Mata besha of Maa Jhanjiri Mangala...FaceBook (0.21 min):

<https://www.facebook.com/share/r/17JiUBbaFj/>

First day of Navratri in Temple...Odisha TV (4 min):

<https://youtu.be/iAtvRsOhb1s?si=HsLCeCF5pdCpgE->

Kusmanda Besha of Maa Jhanjiri Mangala ...FaceBook (0.21 min):

<https://www.facebook.com/share/r/1XrY57H3e8/>

Devotees flock to Temple to have darshan of Maa in Saraswati Avatar..(3 min):Kanak News:<https://youtu.be/5anNy4OA0ug?si=UUQnH4Ji0TZcOJh8>

Maa Jhanjiri Mangala darshan(2 min):

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1DVBLsxHfZ/>

Note: At the end of this ebook, two pages are included (see below), giving (i) Author info, and (ii) a master link and QR code to download all my Technical (viz. Thermodynamics, Heat Transfer, and Cryogenic Engineering) ebooks plus Spiritual ebooks, stored in archive.org.

About the Author

Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar is a Mechanical Engineer with specialization in Cryogenics. He obtained his B. E. In Mechanical Engineering from Karnataka Regional Engg College, (Now NITK), Surathkal, India and M.Sc. in Cryogenics from the University of Southampton, U.K., and Ph.D. from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore.

He has worked in prestigious organizations such as BARC, Bombay and Centre for Advanced Technology (CAT), Indore, as Head of Cryogenics Dept and contributed to the design of cryogenic systems, including the Thermovac chamber for ISRO, Bangalore.

He was also a visiting fellow at Superconducting Super Collider Project, at Texas, USA.

He has also served as Professor, Head of Department, and Principal in reputed engineering institutions.

Dr. Thirumaleshwar has authored a large number of FREE ebooks on Engineering subjects such as Thermodynamics, Heat Transfer, and Cryogenic Engineering, which are useful for students and teachers.

Driven by a deep interest in India's spiritual heritage, he has also authored many FREE ebooks on Temples, Saints, Gurus, and Vedic topics, with the aim of preserving and spreading this knowledge to future generations.

All his ebooks are available for free download at [Archive.org](https://archive.org).

Where to Download all my free ebooks (Engineering + Spiritual):

All my ebooks on Engineering (Thermodynamics, Heat Transfer, Cryogenic Engineering), Temples, Saints, Gurus, and Vedic topics are available for free download from Archive.org.

Master Link (All Books):

<https://archive.org/search?query=creator%3A%22Dr.%20M.%20Thirumaleshwar%22>

Scan the QR code to access all free ebooks:



QR code to access all my free ebooks

All books are free to download and share for educational and spiritual purposes.

Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar
August 9, 2026
